



Comfort Inn University Center Fairfax

The hotel, which has 205 guest rooms, had adopted green practices to help the environment and save our planet. It is a Choice Certified Green Hotel.

GREEN ACTIVITIES

☒ **Optional Linen Service.** Virginia Green Lodging facilities must have some sort of system in place that allows guests to not have their sheets and towels changed every day. This facility pledges that they:

- Have signage in each guest room explaining the linen reuse procedures
- Train house cleaners on process for optional linen service
- Track optional linen participation rate
- Use non-phosphate, non-toxic and biodegradable laundry detergents
- Minimize use of bleach and chlorinated chemicals

☒ **Recycling and Waste Reduction.** Virginia Green Lodging facilities must recycle and are highly encouraged to maintain a comprehensive recycling program. This facility pledges that they:

- Provide the opportunity for guests to recycle: glass bottles, plastic bottles, aluminum cans, newspaper, office paper
- Have recycling bins located:
- Also recycle office paper, cardboard, batteries

Guest rooms

- Instruct housekeeping to save and reuse unopened items

Kitchen (or meetings/events)

- Recycle fryer grease and/or filter grease prior to recycling
- Donate excess food from events
- Have an effective food inventory control to minimize waste

Dining room (or meetings/events)

- Use water pitchers to minimize the use of single-use bottles

Restrooms

- Use bulk soap dispensers in public restrooms

Office

- Remove facility and staff names from junk mail lists when possible
- Reuse scrap paper for notes
- Reuse or donate shipping and packing supplies (peanuts, bubble wrap, etc.)
- Use refillable pens and toner cartridges
- Use electronic correspondence and forms when possible

Building and grounds

- Use green cleaning products that are dispensed in bulk
- Use reused building materials or those from sustainable sources
- Re-use paint thinners
- Perform preventative maintenance on all appliances, HVAC systems, plumbing, and vehicles
- Use integrated pest management (IPM)
- Minimize use of pesticides and herbicides in landscaping

☒ **Water Conservation.** The facility must have a plan for conserving water that should consider plumbing modifications and landscaping. This facility pledges that they:

- Track overall water usage and wastewater

Activities indoors

- Perform preventative maintenance to stop drips and leaks
- Have installed low flow faucets and showerheads (use less than 2.5 gallons per minute)

Activities outdoors

- Have an effective landscape management plan which utilizes native species and minimizes lawn areas

☒ **Energy Conservation.** The facility must have a plan in place that encourages replacement of lighting and equipment to energy-efficient alternatives. This facility pledges that they:

- Track overall energy bills
- Have established a numeric goal to reduce energy usage over time

Heating and cooling

- Have individual thermostats for each room/area
- Have installed ceiling fans
- Regularly perform preventative maintenance on HVAC system
- Have high efficiency heating & air conditioning (HVAC) systems
- Keep office doors and windows closed in HVAC system is on

Lighting

- Use natural lighting
- Use lighting sensors to turn on/off lights
- Use occupancy sensors to turn on/off lights
- Have adopted a policy/practice to turn off lights in unoccupied rooms
- Have installed high efficiency fluorescent ballasts and lamps (T5s and T8s)
- Have installed compact fluorescent light bulbs in all rooms and in canned lighting
- Have installed directional (downward-facing) lighting in parking areas and other outdoor areas
- Have adopted a policy/practice to minimize the use of lighting during night cleaning

Appliances and electronic devices

- Have adopted a policy / practice to turn off fans, computers, monitors and other device in unoccupied rooms at the end of the workday or when otherwise not being used
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For more information on **Comfort Inn University Center**, see www.comfortinn.com/hotel/va073 or contact Marty Chien at martychien@msn.com or (703) 591-5900 x791.

Virginia Green is the Commonwealth of Virginia's campaign to promote environmentally-friendly practices in all aspects of Virginia's tourism industry. *Virginia Green* is supported through a partnership between the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, the Virginia Hospitality & Travel Association, and the Virginia Tourism Corporation. The program has established "core activities" specific to each sector of tourism; these practices are the minimum requirements for participation in the program, but encourages participants to reduce their environmental impacts in all aspects of their operations. **Virginia Green Partners** are committing to help support the program and encourage their customers to join or do business with Virginia Green-certified participants. Although not necessarily tourism facilities themselves, Partners are expected to practice green activities in their own facilities as well. For more information on **Virginia Green**, see <http://www.deq.state.va.us/p2/viriniagreen/homepage.html> or go to www.viriniagreentravel.org.

